

City of Franklin Common Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 5, 2015

The regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Franklin, Indiana was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall, 70 E. Monroe Street, with Mayor Joseph E. McGuinness presiding. Council members Joseph Abban, Joseph Ault, Kenneth Austin, Stephen Barnett, Robert Henderson, Stephen Hougland, and Richard Wertz answered roll call. Clerk-Treasurer Janet P. Alexander, Records Clerk Kristi Bruther, City Attorney Lynnette Gray were also present.

Council President Barnett offered an invocation. Mayor McGuinness opened the meeting and asked the Clerk-Treasurer to call the roll. Mayor McGuinness led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda

Mayor McGuinness presented the consent agenda for approval.

- Approval of the December 15, 2014 Common Council Minutes

Council President Barnett made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Councilor Abban. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Old Business

There was no old business presented.

Mr. Abban, seconded by Mr. Austin made a motion to move the matter titled “Election of City Council Officers for 2015” under Other Business to New Business. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Other Business

Election of City Council Officers for 2015 – Mayor McGuinness stated that they need to elect the Council President and Vice-President. Councilor Abban made a motion to nominate current Council President Barnett for Council President; this motion was seconded by Mr. Henderson. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried. Council President Barnett made a motion to nominate Councilor Austin as Vice-President. This motion was seconded by Councilor Abban. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Council President Barnett made a motion to read all matters under New Business by title only, seconded by Councilor Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

New Business

Common Council Resolution No.: 15-01 A Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Franklin, Indiana, Authorizing Loans from the Rainy Day Fund to the Flooded-Properties Acquisition Project- Mayor McGuinness read by title only. Clerk-Treasurer Alexander explained that this resolution will allow the City to use Rainy Day Fund monies to purchase the four houses remaining for demolition. All funds will be reimbursed by CDBG and FEMA grant funds. Senior Planner Myers was present to answer questions about this project. Council President Barnett made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilor Abban. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Common Council Resolution No.: 15-02 - A Resolution Acknowledging Assignment of Four (4) 2014 Tax Sale Certificates from Johnson County, Indiana Pursuant to Indiana Code 6-1.1-24-9 and 36-1-11-8 - Mayor McGuinness read the resolution aloud by title only. Community Development Specialist Rhoni Oliver and City Attorney Lynette Gray presented the resolution for consideration and approval. City Attorney Gray indicated that Johnson County officials will sign a similar resolution and that no monies will be paid by the City to the County if no one purchases the properties within the six month mandatory waiting period. It was explained that these properties have been vacant for several years and that taxes due on the properties exceed the properties worth. There was also a discussion about outstanding sewer liens filed by the Franklin Sewer Billing Office and the likelihood that these liens would have to be paid by the Board of Public Works. Council President Barnett, seconded by Councilor Henderson, made a motion to approve. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Common Council Budgetary Ordinance No.: 15-01 An Additional Appropriation for the CDBG Flood Buy-Out - Mayor McGuinness read the title aloud. Clerk-Treasurer Alexander explained that the proposed ordinance authorizes the payment of expenditures in an amount not to exceed \$125,000.00. Any expended funds will be reimbursed from CDBG grant funds. This matter is set for public hearing on February 2, 2015.

Common Council Budgetary Ordinance No.: 15-02 An Additional Appropriation for the Disaster Relief FEMA Buy-Out - Mayor McGuinness read the title. Clerk-Treasurer Alexander explained that this authorizes the payment of expenditures in an amount not to exceed \$375,000. Expended monies will be reimbursed by FEMA. This matter is set for public hearing on February 2, 2015.

Other Business

City Council Appointments to Plan Commission & BZA - Senior Planner Myers appeared before the Council to request the appointments to the Plan Commission and BZA. She

communicated that Joe Abban has been the Council representative to the Plan Commission and that Phil Barrow has been the Council's appointed representative to the BZA. Council President Barnett, seconded by Councilor Austin, made a motion to nominate Joe Abban to the Plan Commission. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried. Councilor Abban, seconded by Councilor Austin, made a motion to nominate Phil Barrow to the BZA. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Council Comments

Mr. Abban inquired about reduced fuel prices and the City's ability to capture that savings, and about signage on Jason Avenue. Mayor McGuinness stated that the Street Commissioner is addressing Jason Avenue.

Mr. Hougland inquired about trash collection on King Street and Jefferson Street during "rush hour" which impacts commuter traffic and school buses. Mayor McGuinness stated that he would look into this issue.

Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Common Council, a motion and a second were made to adjourn at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer
Enrolled: 01/29/2015

Joseph McGuinness, Mayor

Attest:

Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer